

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (Cancelled)

Claim 2 (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 18, wherein the biodegradable microspheres are coated with a polymer which delays the release of the anticancer agent and maintains, in the parenchymal space, a therapeutically effective concentration for a period of time of at least three weeks.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 18, wherein the inoperable tumors are deep tumors or tumors which are located in functional zones.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein inoperable tumors are brain tumors selected from the group consisting of glioblastomas, tumors of otorhinolaryngologic sphere, rectal tumors, osseous, hepatic or brain metastasis, and non malignant cystic tumors.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein the tumor is a brain tumor.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 5, wherein the brain tumor is selected from the group consisting of glioblastomas, metastasis and non malignant cystic tumors.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 18, wherein the anticancer agent is a radiosensitizing anticancer compound or a mixture of anticancer compounds comprising at least one radiosensitizing anticancer compound, said anticancer

compound(s) being selected from the group consisting of 5-fluorouracil, platinum agents, and taxanes.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 7, wherein the anticancer agent is 5-fluorouracil.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended) The method according to claim + 18, wherein said anticancer agent further comprises a neuroprotective compound.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended) The method according to claim + 18, wherein the microspheres are suspended in a sterile solution containing between 1 and 1.5% by weight/volume of a viscosity modifier, between 0.5 and 1.5% of a surfactant, and between 3.5 and 4.5% of an isotonicity agent.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein the sterile solution contains 1.25% weight/volume of the viscosity modifier.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein the surfactant is between 0.5 and 1.5%.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein the isotonicity agent is between 3.5 and 4.5%.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein the viscosity modifier is sodium carboxymethylcellulose, the surfactant is ~~Polysorbate~~[®] a polysorbate and the isotonicity agent is mannitol.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented) The method of treatment according to claim 10, wherein the suspension contains 3 ml of the sterile solution and 700 to 800 mg of biodegradable microspheres.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented) The method of treatment according to claim 8, wherein the amount of 5 fluorouracil is between 50 and 200 mg.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 4 18, wherein the microspheres are administered by one or more repeated stereotactic injections.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended) ~~Method according to claim 1, wherein the~~ A method for treating a human suffering from inoperable tumors comprising

(1) administering to a patient in need of such treatment biodegradable microspheres, wherein said microspheres release an anticancer agent by stereostatic injection directly into the tumor, into the peritumoral area or at the same time into both the tumor and the peritumoral area, and

(2) ~~said administration of microspheres is followed by a~~ administering radiotherapy to said patient.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 4 18, wherein the microspheres are prepared by a method comprising preparing an organic phase in which the anticancer agent and the polymer are dispersed in an organic solvent, emulsifying the organic phase and an aqueous phase, extracting the organic solvent by adding water and filtering the suspension of microspheres thus obtained.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4 18, wherein the biodegradable microspheres are coated with a polymer which delays the release of the anticancer agent and maintains, in the parenchymal space, a therapeutically effective concentration for a period of time of at least four weeks.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein inoperable tumors are craniopharyngiomas.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the anticancer agent is carboplatin or cisplatin.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the anticancer agent is docetaxes or paclitaxel.

Claim 24 (Cancelled)

Claim 25 (Currently Amended) A method for treating a human suffering from inoperable tumors comprising administering biodegradable microspheres which release an anticancer agent by stereotactic injection directly into the tumor, into the peritumoral area or at the same time into the tumor and the peritumoral area, wherein the biodegradable microspheres are coated with a polymer which delays the release of the anticancer agent and maintains, in the parenchymal space, a therapeutically effective concentration for a period of time of at least three weeks, and

administering radiotherapy to said patient .

Claim 26 (Cancelled)

Claim 27 (Previously Presented) A method for treating a human suffering from inoperable brain tumors comprising administering biodegradable microspheres which release an anticancer agent by stereotactic injection directly into the tumor, into the peritumoral area or at the same time into the tumor and the peritumoral area, wherein the biodegradable microspheres are coated with a polymer which delays the release of the anticancer agent and maintains, in the parenchymal space, a therapeutically effective concentration for a period of time of at least three weeks, and wherein said anticancer compound is selected from the group consisting of 5-fluorouracil (5-FU), platinum agents, and taxanes,

and administering radiotherapy to said human.